



Transitioning Youth



Fall 2012

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Welcome to the fall edition of the Maryland Transitioning Youth Newsletter. Fall is a season of change and this year is no exception. As many youth and young adults have settled into a new school year, many may also be thinking about getting more involved in their communities outside of school. This edition focuses on two ways to get more involved: by voting and through your local Centers for Independent Living.

Transition Planning

[Voting](#)

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th



Deadline to [Register to Vote](#) is October 16th!

One of the best ways to help your community is to raise your voice on issues that matter to you. A sure way to do that is to vote; Individuals with disabilities have the right to vote, and it is crucial to participate in elections and advocate for the change you want to see.

Individuals with disabilities who understand the voting procedures have their right to vote protected by the ADA. They may also receive help casting their ballot, including assistance from a family member, friend or other support person. Polling places are made accessible to those with disabilities and individuals may ask for a change in venue

if a location is not accessible to them. For more information on accommodations, [click here](#).

There are multiple options when it comes to voting:

- At a polling location on Election Day
- Before Election Day at a specified early voting polling location
- By absentee ballot through the mail

A person must be 16 years of age to register, and be 18 years of age to vote. For more information on voter eligibility, how to register, request an absentee ballot, and find times and locations for early voting visit the [Maryland State Board of Elections Website](#).

Program Spotlight

Centers for Independent Living

Centers for Independent Living (CILs) are nonprofit, consumer controlled organizations that are designed and operated within local communities by individuals with disabilities. This means that at least 51 percent of the board of directors and staff at every center is a person with a disability.

Centers provide an array of independent living services including:

- Information and referral
- Independent living skills training
- Individual and systems advocacy
- Peer counseling

In addition, several CILs in Maryland provide targeted programming for youth with disabilities!

[Click here](#) to find a CIL in your community. Also, check out the [Maryland Transitioning Youth Website](#) for additional resources.

Upcoming Events

2012 Maryland Transition Conference

Transition Outcomes: From High School to Life long learning

When: Saturday; November 17, 2012

Where: Comfort Inn & Conference Center Bowie, MD

Primary Audience: Transition Age Youth and Their families

From: 8am - 4pm

REGISTER NOW

Check out the [Maryland Transitioning Youth Website](#) for additional updates leading up to the conference.

The Maryland Transitioning Youth Website is sponsored by the Governor's Interagency Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities and is designed to provide information and resources to youth and young adults with disabilities and their families.

For more information visit at www.mdtransition.org
or email mdod@mdod.state.md.us



Try it FREE today.